Weeding out of Old Railway Records

2591. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had received letters in June, 1996 regarding obsolete and unimportant records lying at the railway stations/offices;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to weed them out?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) (b) Two letters, one each from Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar, MP and Shri Shshi Prakash, cx. MP. suggesting that reservation slips/ charts and other registers except those pertaining to accident should be kept only for a period of one month have been received.

(c) As per the extent instructions, all records pertaining to reservation, are pre-served for six months. In those cases, where action is under process, these are preserved till the finalisation of the case. The preservation of these records for six months is considered necessary to deal with complaints received from travelling public regarding reservations etc., cases of refunds, verification of leave travel concession, Military warrants etc.

Reckmess Fishing by Trawlers and Deep-Sea Fishing Vessels During Monsoon

2592. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether reckless fishing by trawlers and deep-sea fishing vessels during monsoon have depleted marine resources alarminalv.

(b) the steps taken to ban fishing during monsoon season in the Indian Territorial Waters and Exclusinve Economic Zone to facilitate undisturbed fish breeding;

(c) the measures taken to maintain the balance of marine life; and

(d) the steps taken for violation of ban by the fishing traders and exporters?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c) The marine fisheries in India comprise a host of fin and shellfish species having varying periods of breeding which is not restricted to monsoon months only. However, the Marine Fishing Regulation Acts (MFRA) enacted by various maritime states, empower them to notification to prohibit -suing for a particular period, including monsoon season. Governments of Karnataka and Maharashtra have banned mechanised fishing during monsoon season in their respective territorial waters, while Government of Kerala has banned bottom trawling by mechanised vessels during monsoon period. Ministry of Food Processing Industries has also imposed a ban this year on deep sea fishing in the Exclusive Economic Zone off the coasts of Kerala, Karnataka and Maharashtra during monsoon seasoon at par with similar ban imposed by these State Governments in respect of fishing by trawlers in the territorial waters. To maintain the balance of marine life, various maritime States have taken measures like mesh regulation in the fishing nets, establishment of marine parks and bio-reserve,- etc. Further, the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institue (MCFRI) unde the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has also advised the maritime States from time to time to protect and conserve fish habitat:; and fishery resources.

(d) The question of violation of ban by the fishing traders and exporters does not arise as the ban referred to in answer to part (b) above applies to fishing only.

Poaching of Animals

2593. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent seizure in Madras of animal skins, furs, bones etc. is indicative of large scale poaching, inspite of stringent laws; and

(b) the number of cases of poaching reported during tile last three years. State-wise?

THE MINISTER Of STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) it is not a fact that poaching of wild animals is continuing in a large scale, although there is some poaching of wild animals in the country. The recent seizure of wildlife products in Madras is due to greater vigilance and enforcement activity.

(b) The report is being called from the States and will be laid on the Table of the House on receipt from them.

ग्रामीण लोगों को वन भूमि का आवंटन

2594. **श्री जनार्दन यादव:** क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों के लोगों को वन-भूमि आवंटित की है ताकि वे फलदार वृक्ष लगाकर स्व-रोजगार प्राप्त कर सकें;

(ख) यदि हां, तो वर्ष 1994-95 के दौरान राज्य-वार तथा संघ राज्य क्षेत्र-वार आवंटित भूमि का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या सरकार वर्ष 1996 के दौरान ग्रामीण लोगों को स्व-रोजगार के अवसर प्रदान करने हेतु और अधिक वन-भूमि आवंटित करने का विचार रखती है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में राज्य-वार एवं संघ राज्य क्षेत्र-वार ब्यौरा क्या है और यदि नहीं तो इसके क्या कारण है?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (कैप्टन जय नारायण प्रसाद निषाद): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ग) जी, नहीं।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता। स्वरोजगार के लिए ग्रामीण लोगों के लिए वन भूमि का आवंटन वन (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1980 के अन्तर्गत अनुज्ञेय नहीं है। राष्ट्रीय वन नीति का मुख्य उद्देश्य पारिस्थितिकीय सन्तुलन बनाए रखना है तथा फलदार वृक्ष लगाने से प्राकृतिक वनों की जैविक विविधता पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़ेगा।

Global Tender for Flat Wagons by Container Corporation of India

2595. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Container Corporation of India Limited had floated a global tender for 1500 Bogie Container flat wagons in September, 1994;

(b) if so, the date of opening of the technical bid;

(c) the date of opening of the price bid

(d) whether the Bum Standard Ltd., a PSU had sought deemed export status and if so, whether **on** this account their lowest bid was not considered;

(e) whether the status was not considered for private bidder;

(f) when the number of wagons tendered was changed from 1500 to 1725 and whether all the bidders were informed of this change, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI